

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. The Applicant has carefully considered the official communication dated December 23, 2005. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment and the following remarks are fully responsive to the official communication.

2. With regard to paragraph 9 of the Examiner's Official Action, the Applicant elects the product claims in Group I of paragraph 1 of the Official Action (i.e. claims 1 -37, 41, 45-48). That is, the Applicant requests that the method claims in Groups II to V be withdrawn without traverse (i.e. claim 38, 42, 49, 39, 40, 43 and 44), and rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. The method claims in Groups II to V each depend upon claim 1 as required.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,
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